Statement-II

LIST OF ORGANISATIONS :

1. Ahle-Hadees
2. Islami Indqulabi Mahaz
3. H.U.M.
4. Hizbullah
5. Muslim Fundamentalists
6. Al-Jehad
7. Muslim Mujahideen
8. J.K.I.F.
9. Harkst-Ul-Ansar
10. I.S.Y.F.
11. Hizbul Muzahideen
12. Harkat-Ul-Ansar
13. Al. Barg
14. Tahrik-Ul-Muzahideen
15. B.K.I.
16. Al-Umar Mujahideen
17. Muslim Janbaz Force
18. Ikhwan-Ul-Musalmeen
19. Hizbul Momineen
20. J.K. Islamic Front
21. Al-Umar Commardo
22. K.C.F. (Panjwar)
23. Deshmesh Reginment.

Official Secrets Act, 1923

499. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:
DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD:
SHRI PARAG CHALIHA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether access to information is governed by the Official Secrets Act, 1923; and

(b) if so, by when Government propose to amend the Act and enact laws which give citizens a general right to get access to Government documents with stipulated exceptions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR): (a) Access to Official information is subject to the provisions of the Official Secrets Act, 1993.

(b) A working group has been set up by the Governement to examine the possibility of introducing a legislation on Right to Information at the levels of Central and State Government as well as consideration of amendment to various relevant legislations including the Official Secrets Act. Further action in this regard is contingent upon the receipt of the above mentioned working Groups' Report which is expected shortly.

Timber Smuggling by CRPF Personnel in Jammu and Kashmir

500. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether reports have been received about smuggling of timber by some personnel of the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) deployed in Jammu and Kashmir by using official vehicles;

(b) whether the Forest Department of the State has sought permission to check the vehicles of CRPF and the army convoys passing through the check posts;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the measures proposed to stop smuggling by Government personnel?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR): (a) to (d) CRPF have reported two incidents where their vehicles carrying timber were intercepted by the Forest Department officials. These vehicles were released on production of documents. The involvement of CRPF officers in transporting timber in Government vehicles is being inquired into separately.

Although no specific permission is reported to have been sought for checking of CRPF vehicles, the Forest Department Officials are already checking vehicles of all security Forces including CRPF. The Government have no objection to such checking. CRPF has also set up a check post at Udhampur to keep a check on such activities.